



## Idaho Public Utilities Commission

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Paul Kjellander, Commissioner  
Mack A. Redford, Commissioner  
Marsha H. Smith, Commissioner

*Case No. IPC-E-14-23, Order No. 33156*  
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[www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov)

# Commission OKs sales agreement between Idaho Power, small hydro project

**BOISE (Oct. 24, 2014)** – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission has approved an Idaho Power Company application to purchase power from a small hydroelectric project near Bliss.

The 20-year sales agreement is with Black Canyon Bliss, LLC, a 24.8-kilowatt hydroelectric facility projected to be online by Nov. 15. The project owner is David Coats of Rupert.

The project qualifies under the provisions of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, or PURPA. The act requires that electric utilities offer to buy power produced from qualifying small-power producers. The rate to be paid small-power producers is determined by the commission and is called an “avoided-cost rate” because it is to be equal to the cost the electric utility avoids if it would have had to generate the power itself or purchase it from another source. The commission must ensure the avoided-cost rate is reasonable for utility customers because 100 percent of the price utilities pay to qualifying small-power producers is included in customer rates.

The agreement includes non-levelized payments from Idaho Power to Black Canyon that gradually increase throughout the life of the contract. Beginning in 2014, the proposed rate is \$35.10 per megawatt-hour, escalating to \$102.92 per MWh at contract’s end in 2033. The payments are adjusted slightly to account for on-peak and off-peak hours.

The commission order, along with other documents related to this case, is available on the commission’s Web site at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov). Click on “Open Cases” under the “Electric” heading and scroll down to Case Number IPC-E-14-23.

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